



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF  
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON DC 20330

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MEMORANDUM FOR ALMAJCOM-FOA-DRU/CC  
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SUBJECT: Air Force Policy on Achieving Efficiencies through Pollution Prevention and Waste Elimination

To support our continuing efforts to achieve efficiencies through pollution prevention (P2) and waste elimination, this memo establishes new goals to refocus our efforts. These goals do not represent an unfunded mandate; rather focus on finding cost savings/cost avoidance opportunities to realize efficiencies.

P2 and waste minimization opportunities are excellent ways to conserve resources, protect Air Force people and their environment, reduce logistical and compliance burdens, and streamline processes to become more efficient. They also help sustain the Air Force mission, maintain a safe workplace, and improve the environment in which we train, live, work and operate.

Therefore, in support of the Department of Defense Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan, we have established the following Air Force P2 and waste minimization goals:

- By CY2020, achieve a 20 percent reduction in the three-year average of recurring hazardous waste over the CY2008-CY2010 average baseline, with interim goals to achieve a seven percent reduction by 2015 and 15 percent by 2018;
- Divert 65 percent, by weight, of non-hazardous solid waste from landfill disposal by 2020, excluding construction and demolition debris, with interim goals to divert 55 percent by 2015 and 60 percent by 2018; and
- Reduce toxic release inventory (TRI) releases by 35 percent by 2020 from the 2006 baseline, with interim goals to achieve a 20 percent reduction by 2015 and 30 percent by 2018.


In order to achieve these goals, commanders will utilize the Air Force Environmental Management System (EMS) as the framework to identify and manage daily operations that generate waste and pollution. The Air Force EMS uses the P2 hierarchy as a guide to select preferred options for reducing environmental impacts associated with significant activities.

The first option in the P2 hierarchy is to substitute materials or re-engineer processes, systems and facilities to reduce or eliminate environmental impacts. When source reduction is not an option, commanders should emphasize reuse and recycling to "win the war against waste." Commanders will instruct organization supervisors at all levels of the Air Force to use

this hierarchy. Process owners will use the standardized EMS aspect identification methodology and the P2 hierarchy to achieve the goals established by this memo. Your installation EMS cross-functional teams shall help apply the standard EMS process. This guidance, found in AFD 90-8, *Environment, Safety and Occupational Health*, and AFI 32-7001, *Environmental Management*, requires installations to minimize the adverse impacts on air, water, and land from mission activities.

We are establishing a HAF-level EMS/P2 cross-functional team comprised of representatives from Air Force core business areas. The team will monitor and report progress toward these goals and report quarterly on potential enterprise-wide, high-value risk reduction and efficiency opportunities for consideration to the Headquarters Air Force Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health (ESOH) Council.

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